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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/57/531/Add.4)*]

57/250. High-Level Dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998, 54/213 of 22 December 1999, 55/193 of 20 December 2000 and 56/190 of 21 December 2001,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership",[1]

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, which was adopted on 22 March 2002,[2]

Recalling also the commitment to strengthen and make fuller use of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence and partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development, and that the United Nations system should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue,

Stressing the importance of staying fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and to continue to build bridges between development, finance and trade organizations and initiatives, within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference,

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[1] A/57/388.

[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Stressing also the importance of substantively connecting, in ascending order, the spring high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, which will address the issue of coherence, coordination and cooperation, and the reconstituted High-Level Dialogue in the General Assembly, which will serve as the focal point for the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and will include a policy dialogue on the implementation of the results of the Conference, including the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development,

Recognizing the link between financing for development and attaining internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in measuring development progress and helping to guide development priorities, as well as achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, bearing in mind the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[4]

1. *Stresses* that the High-Level Dialogue, as the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues, should contribute to promoting coherence among policies of development, finance and monetary and trade organizations within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference with respect to eradicating poverty and achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development and an equitable global economic system;

2. *Decides* to reconstitute the current high-level dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership as the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development so that it may become the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues;

3. *Also decides* to hold the High-Level Dialogue biennially at the ministerial level;

4. *Agrees* to hold the High-Level Dialogue at the end of October 2003 on a specific date to be determined by the President of the General Assembly, after consultations with relevant stakeholders, so as to facilitate ministerial participation and the participation of heads of international financial and trade institutions and other relevant organizations;

5. *Decides* that the overall theme of the High-Level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead";

6. *Also decides* that the duration of the High-Level Dialogue will be two days and that it will consist of an innovative series of plenary and informal meetings to constitute a policy dialogue and interactive round tables with the participation of the relevant stakeholders. The Dialogue should be well prepared, including through appropriate intergovernmental consultations. The two days will consist of:

(*a*) The first day, devoted to informal meetings for eight interactive round tables, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, following the format

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[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

applied for the Monterrey Conference round tables as applicable, divided into two sessions, each comprising four round tables of thirty-five participants with the following two themes:

- One for consideration of the regional dimensions of the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development, with participation of the heads of regional commissions and regional development banks, and other stakeholders;

- The other to explore the link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] and the promotion of sustainable development, sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to achieving an equitable global economic system;

(*b*) The second day, consisting of formal and informal meetings, constituting a policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, on the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development, which will also consider the collaborative tasks ahead. The Secretary-General and the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, as well as one representative of the regional development banks, will be invited to make introductory statements. An interactive dialogue will follow during an informal meeting, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, allowing participation at the ministerial level. The heads of regional and international intergovernmental organs that participated in the Monterrey Conference will be able to intervene. One representative from civil society and one representative from the business sector, selected by accredited participants among themselves, will also be able to intervene;

7. *Further decides* to hold, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, one day of informal hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector accredited to the Dialogue, and requests the Secretariat to submit a summary of those hearings as an input to the discussions to be held at the Dialogue;

8. *Decides* that a resolution on the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development will be adopted by the General Assembly based, inter alia, on the outcome of the High-Level Dialogue and its preparatory process, and in this regard, as inputs to the resolution, requests the President of the General Assembly to issue a summary of the policy dialogue and the co-Chairpersons of individual round tables to issue summaries of each round-table discussion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, an issues paper containing an annotated agenda and programme of work to assist in organizing the Dialogue;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available at the High-Level Dialogue relevant inputs related to financing for development from all stakeholders, including the documents of the Economic and Social Council covering its annual

spring high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization and relevant work at its substantive session, the annual report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up efforts to the commitments of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

11. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders at all levels to support adequate preparations for the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development;

12. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system to participate in the High-Level Dialogue, including in the preparatory phase, and invites the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the heads of other relevant regional and international intergovernmental organs to participate actively in the Dialogue;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with the regional development banks, other relevant regional entities, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to support regional consultations in preparations for the High-Level Dialogue;

14. *Invites* Governments to enhance coordination among ministries of foreign affairs, finance, development cooperation and trade, as well as central banks and all other national stakeholders, for the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[2] and related issues and the follow-up thereto, including preparations for the High-Level Dialogue;

15. *Encourages* greater participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities at the interactive round tables and informal meetings of the plenary of the High-Level Dialogue in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and decides that:

(*a*) Accreditation will be open to:

(i) All non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(ii) All non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(*b*) Interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development shall apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the accreditation procedure established during the International Conference on Financing for Development;[5]

(*c*) The above arrangements concerning participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities in the High-Level Dialogue will in no way create a precedent for other meetings of the General Assembly;

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[5] See resolutions 54/279 and 55/245 B.

16. *Notes* that the successfully reconstituted High-Level Dialogue may provide useful experiences for the integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under an item entitled "Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development", a sub-item entitled "High-Level Dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, before the end of its fifty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

78th plenary meeting
20 December 2002